

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 086319

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET APPROACH REGARDING ECOSOC

REF: WELLS/MAYNES TELECON APRIL 15

1. WITH REGARD TO SOVIET QUERY AS TO WHETHER WE PLAN ANY
SURPRISES AT ECOSOC, DEPARTMENT ENDORSES MISSION'S
INCLINATION TO INFORM SOVIETS AT NEXT CONVENIENT OPPORTUN-
ITY THAT IT IS NOT OUR OBJECTIVE TO GIVE SIGNIFICANT
EMPHASIS TO PROBLEMS WITHIN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES DURING
ECOSOC SESSION. AGENDA OF ECOSOC IS FOCUSED ON ISSUES
IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AREAS AND ON SUCH MAJOR HUMAN
RIGHTS ITEMS AS THE DECADE AND THE REPORT OF THE HUMAN
RIGHTS COMMISSION. WE HAVE A STRONG INTEREST IN THE
MANNER IN WHICH THESE ITEMS ARE HANDLED AND IN THE GENERAL
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OBJECTIVE OF STRENGTHENING THE ABILITY OF THE SYSTEM TO
ADDRESS HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS THROUGH APPROPRIATE
MECHANISMS. ECOSOC CAN PROPERLY APPROACH THESE OBJECTIVES
BUT IS NOT, IN OUR VIEW, THE APPROPRIATE MECHANISM FOR
TAKING ACTION ON INDIVIDUAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS.

2. IN CONVEYING FOREGOING TO SOVIETS, MISSION MAY WISH

TO AVOID COMPLETE ASSURANCE THAT THERE WILL BE NO PASSING
MENTION OF INDIVIDUAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS--SINCE WE

MAY WISH TO KEEP THIS OPTION OPEN FOR ITEM ON HRC REPORT.
LEAVING THIS SLIGHT POSSIBILITY OPEN COULD GIVE DELEGA-
TION SOME LEVERAGE ON PROBLEM OF ZIONISM/RACISM ON WHICH
SOVIETS HAVE CONSISTENTLY GIVEN US GRIEF, AS AT LAST UNGA
AND 1976 SPRING ECOSOC. DEPARTMENT RECOLLECTS THAT ON
BOTH THESE OCCASIONS, SOVIETS AND BLOC COUNTRIES
STIMULATED AND INITIATED DISCUSSIONS OF ZIONISM/RACISM AT
TIME WHEN MOST ARABS APPEARED READY TO DOWN PLAY IT.
IT WAS CLEAR TO US THAT SOVIETS WERE DELIBERATELY KEEPING
THIS ISSUE ALIVE TO FRUSTRATE POSSIBILITY OF U.S. RETURN
TO PARTICIPATION IN PROJECT OF HIGH IMPORTANCE TO
AFRICANS. DELEGATION MAY THEREFORE WISH TO LEAVE
IMPLICATION THAT TREATMENT OF THIS ISSUE BY SOVIETS AND
THEIR ALLIES AT EARLY STAGE OF ECOSOC COULD HAVE A BEARING
ON OUR EAGERNESS TO AVOID CONFRONTATION ON OTHER ITEMS.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 17-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Subject: SOVIET APPROACH REGARDING ECOSOC
TAGS: PORG, SHUM, UR, US, UN, ECOSOC
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